11	Mr. P. Madhavan Pillai		18	Mr. K. Rama Varma Raja	
12	,, H. O. L. Marikar		19	,, K. Sankaralingam Pillai	
13	,, R. Nilakanta Pillai		20	,, Komilezhathu Sankaran	
14	,, K. P. Padmanabha Menon		21	,, James Simpson	
15	,, N. K. Padmanabha Pillai		22	,, Kattiyattu Sivarama Panickar	
16	,, K. Parameswaran Pillai		23	,, K. K. Thomas	
17	,, Kayalam Parameswaran Pillai		24	,, A. N. Visvanatha Pillai	
			25	,, G. B. E. Truscott	

NOES—7.

1	Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai		5	Mr. N. K. Padmanabha Pillai	
2	,, K. Madhavan Pillai		6	,, M. N. Parameswaran Pillai	
3	,, M. N. Narayana Menon		7	,, S. Piraviperumal Pillai	
4	,, K. P. Nilakanta Pillai				

NEUTRALS—2.

1 Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar 2 Mr. K. Padmanabha Panickar

The Demand was declared carried.

DEMAND No. III.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT.

Mr. K. P. Padmanbha Menon: I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 24,87,608 for Electrical Department under Public Works.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam: ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലുള്ള ഭരണപരമായ കാര്യങ്ങളെ ഈ സഭയുടെ മുമ്പാകെ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതിനാണ് ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നത്. ഏലക്ട്രിക് എൻജിനീയറുടെ ആഫീസ് അടുത്ത ആണ്ടാരംഭത്തോടുകൂടി പള്ളിവാസലിലേക്കു മാറുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് അവിടെ റസിഡൻറ് എൻജിനീയർ എന്ന അഭിധാനത്തിൽ കുറെനാളായി ഭീമമായ ശമ്പളവുംകൊടുത്തു ഒരു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനേയും സ്റ്റാഫിനേയും വച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു കുറയ്ക്കുവാൻ ഇതു തക്കതായ ഒരവസരമാണ്. പ്രതിവർഷം ആ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനുവേണ്ടി മുപ്പതിനായിരം രൂപയാണ് പോകുന്നത്. ഏലക്ട്രിക്കൽ എൻജിനീയരാകട്ടെ, ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ വിദഗ്ധനായിട്ടുള്ള ആളാണ്. പൈക്കാരമുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ഇരുന്ന ചിരപരിചയം സിദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടും ഉണ്ട്. അവിടത്തെ ടണൽ പണിയുടെ ആരംഭദശയിൽ അന്നത്തെ ദിവാൻജിയായിരുന്ന മി. ആസ്റ്ററിൻെറ അദ്ധ്യക്ഷതയിൽ കൂടിയ യോഗത്തിൽവച്ചു ടണലിൻെറ

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മൈർഘ്യം ഫ ൦ ഫ ൧ ൦ അടി എന്ന പ്രത്യേകം പറയുകയുണ്ടായി. എന്നാൽ ഇന്നത്തെ എന്റെ ഒരു ചോദ്യത്തിനുത്തരമായി മി. മേനോൻപറയുന്നതു ഫ ൦ ൦ ൦ ൦ അടിയെന്നാണ്. ടണിലിന്റെ നീളം ഫ ൦ ഫ ൦ ൦ അടിയാണെന്നു പ്രസ്തുതയോഗത്തിൽ പ്രസ്താപിച്ചിട്ടില്ലയൊഎന്നു ഞാൻ ചോദിച്ചപ്പോൾ 'അങ്ങനേയുമാണ്' എന്നും അദ്ദേഹം മറുപടി പറഞ്ഞു.

Mr. Kyalam Paramesvaran Pillai : ഉദ്ദേശം പതിനായിരമടിയെന്നാണ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam : എന്നാൽ പതിനായിരത്തിൽ പരം എന്നാണ് പറയേണ്ടിയിരുന്നതു്. ഏതായാലും എനിക്കു ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ ഭരണവൈകല്യങ്ങളെപ്പറ്റി പല സംഗതികളും പറയുവാൻ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നെങ്കിലും ഇലക്ട്രിക്കൽ എൻജിനീയരെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു വളരെ നല്ല മതിപ്പായിരുന്നു. എന്നാൽ ഇന്നത്തെ അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ മറുപടികൊണ്ടു് അതു കുറഞ്ഞുപോയി. റസിഡൻറ് എൻജിനീയരും പൈക്കാരയും തമ്മിൽ എന്തൊചില ബന്ധം ഉണ്ടു്. അവിടത്തെ സെക്കൻറ്ഹാൻഡായിട്ടുള്ള സാമാനങ്ങളും ഇവിടെ കൊണ്ടുവന്നു നമ്മുടെ ഗവണ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ ചെലവിൽ പണിനടത്താൻ അനുവദിക്കുന്നതു വളരെ കഷ്ടമാണ്.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai : ഈ സെക്കൻഡ് ഹാൻഡ് സാമാനങ്ങളും എന്നു് പറയുന്നതു് എന്തുസാമാനങ്ങളാണു്?

Mr. J. John Kattakayam: അവിടത്തെ പണികഴിക്കുവേണ്ടി ഗവണ്മെൻറ് മേടിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ചില സാമാനങ്ങളാണു്.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai : ഏതുതരത്തിലുള്ളതാണു് ഈ സെക്കൻഡ് ഹാൻഡ് സാമാനങ്ങളും?

Mr. J. John Kattakayam : അതു് ഏതുതരത്തിലായാലും കൊള്ളാം. ഏലക്ട്രിക്കു് എൻജിനീയർ അവധിയെടുത്തൊ മറെറാ പോയിരുന്നപ്പോഴാണു് ഈ സെക്കൻറഹാൻഡ് സാമാനങ്ങൾവാങ്ങിയിട്ടുള്ളതു്. പഞ്ചാബ് ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ യുംനദി പ്രാജക്ടിൽ കൺട്രാക്ടു് എടുത്തിരുന്ന ആളാണു് റസിഡൻറ് എൻജിനീയർ ഉദ്യോഗത്തിൽ ഇവിടെ ഇരിക്കുന്നതു്. ഇവർ രണ്ടുപേരും കള്ളന്മാരാണെന്നു നമുക്കു് പ്രത്യക്ഷത്തിൽ കാണാം.

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Mr- Chairman : ആ വാക്ക് പിൻവലിക്കണം.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam : അതിന്റെ ഉത്തരവാദിത്വം എനിക്കുണ്ട്.

Mr. Chairman : എന്നിരുന്നാലും ആവാക്ക് പാർലമെന്ററി അല്ല. പിൻവലിക്കണം.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam : അങ്ങിനെയെങ്കിൽ ഞാൻ ആ വാക്ക് പിൻവലിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. റസിഡന്റ് എൻജിനീയരുടേയും മറ്റും കായ്ത്തിൽ തകരാറുകൾഉണ്ട്. അദ്ദേഹം ഇതിന്റെ യഥാർത്ഥം എത്രത്തോളം മനസ്സിലാക്കീട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു എനിക്കറിയാൻപാടില്ല. റസിഡന്റു ആഫീസിലുള്ള ഒരു സുന്ദരസിംഗും ഒരു നായർസ്രാവുയരും ഒരു ക്രസ്ത്യാൻ സ്രാവുയരുംകൂടിയാണ് തുരങ്കംസ്രാവ് നടത്തീട്ടുള്ളത്. നാട്ടുകാരാരും ഈ സ്രാവ് നടത്തുവാനില്ലെ എന്നു ഞാൻ ചോദിച്ചതിൽ ശരിയായമറുപടിയില്ല. സുന്ദരസിംഗിന് നൂറു രൂപാ ശമ്പളംകൊടുക്കുന്നു. ലാമെമ്പർ എന്റെ ഈ പ്രസ്താവനയേയും തിരുത്തുമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon : മുന്നൂറ്രൂപായാണ്.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam : നാട്ടുകാരായ സ്രാവുയരന്മാരിവിടെ ഉള്ളപ്പോൾ വിദേശത്തുനിന്നും വരുത്തുന്ന ഇവർക്ക് ഇത്രവളരെ ശമ്പളം കൊടുക്കുന്നതെന്തിന്? നാട്ടുകാരായ സ്രാവുയരന്മാർക്ക് നൂറു രൂപായാണ് ശമ്പളം. ജോലിരണ്ടും ഒരുപോലെയാണ്. കമ്പനിസ്രാവുയർക്കു നൂറു രൂപാ; ആഫിസുമാനേജർക്കു നൂറു രൂപാ; തുരങ്കംസ്രാവുയർക്കു നൂറു രൂപാമുതൽ നൂറു രൂപാവരെ,മെക്കാനിക്കൽ എൻജിനീയർക്കു ഏഴു രൂപാ; ഈ തരത്തിൽ ആവശ്യത്തിലധികം ശമ്പളംവാങ്ങുന്ന ധാരാളംപേർ അവിടെയുണ്ട്.

Mr. R. Nilakanta Pillai (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : ഈ ശമ്പളമൊക്കെ സർക്കാരിൽനിന്നും കൊടുക്കുന്നു എന്നാണൊ അതോ, കമ്പനിയിൽനിന്നും കൊടുക്കുന്നുവെന്നാണോ മെമ്പർ പറയുന്നത്?

Mr. J. John Kattakayam : ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ പണം ഗവണ്മെൻറ് കൊടുക്കുന്നുവെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു്. എവർക്കൽ എൻജിനീയർക്കു മനസ്സുണ്ടായിരുന്നെങ്കിൽ ഈവക ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ എല്ലാം തന്നെ നമുക്കു കിട്ടുമായിരുന്നു. ടണൽവർക്ക് സംബന്ധിച്ചു ജ്ഞാനമുള്ളവനും എന്റെ നിയോജകമണ്ഡലത്തിൽപ്പെട്ടവനുമായ മി. പി. ആർ. നാരായണപിള്ളക്കു ജോലികൊടുത്തെങ്കിലും ഫസ്റ്റ്-മണിക്കൂറിനുശേഷം പിരിച്ചുവിട്ടു.

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Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: I rise to support the motion of Mr. John Kattakayam. In this connection I wish to point out some aspects in the working of this department which call for the immediate attention of Government. The first thing I have to state is that this department does not try to justify its existence. We have in the staff of this department a high paid Electrical Chief Engineer, an Assistant Electrical Engineer and several others drawing high salaries, but every time, whether it is for installing the generating sets in the Power House or for putting up over-head lines in the streets of Trivandrum or even for starting the Pallivasal Hydro Electric Scheme, we are put to the necessity of requisitioning the services of experts and agents from outside the State at enormous costs. Why should the Government then maintain this department, is what I cannot understand.

With regard to the Trivandrum Electric Supply, what we find is that although the overhead lines in the streets were put up only some years ago there have been numerous cases of leakage, frequent accidents and even claims for damages. The overhead lines and the lead casing are quite unsuited to modern conditions and as such they have been condemned in other parts of the world. But generally it is our experience that in this country we always find that, whatever is condemned in other places, whether it is in the field of science or legislation, is readily adopted by the Government. That certainly is a peculiarity of our Government.

In the matter of putting up electric lights the Electrical Chief Engineer adopts no recognised principle. Several important roads in the town have not been lit with electricity, whereas on the other hand we find some of the unimportant roads and even lanes are now provided with electric lights. It appears from the policy followed by the Electrical Chief Engineer that the importance of a road is to be determined not from the traffic or use to which it is put, but from the importance of the Olympian personalities that reside therein. If an officer wants light, even if he is living in the corner of a lane, the electric line will at once be extended there by the Electrical Chief Engineer at heavy cost to Government simply to oblige that individual. For such purposes the Government have very often to spend large amounts for putting up unnecessary posts on road sides. The Electrical Chief Engineer told us yesterday that there are 420 such supply posts in the streets of Trivandrum. Is it not a huge waste, Sir?

Then again, Sir, the Trivandrum Municipal Council has been surrendering annually from its lighting grants about Rs. 7,000 towards the electric lighting in the town, but yet the Electrical Chief

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Engineer is not prepared to consult this body or respect its views in the matter of the extension of the electric scheme in the town. The department is supplying electric current at cheap and concessional rates to various small firms and even to the S. I. R., but the Municipality, which is one of the biggest consumers, is denied the concession which such bodies receive in other places. It is important to note in this connection that in Trichinopoly only Rs. 9 and odd is charged every year for a full night electric light, lit on all days in the year. The Trivandrum Municipality is now spending more than Rs. 9 a year even for a half night kerosene light which is burnt only for 20 days in the month. If the Electrical Department would only extend the concession to the Municipality, the latter will be able to light the whole town with electricity, with the amount of Rs.14 or 15 thousand which it is spending every year on kerosene lights. The policy of the Electrical Department should be to supply current at cheap rates and thus popularise electric consumption. The department could do so because the cost of generating one unit of current does not exceed more than an anna or so It is the cost of a big establishment that has necessitated this high rate. Although it is six or seven years since this department was organised, we find that it has not yet made that amount of popularity which it was expected to make during this period.

Another point which I wish to bring to the notice of our Electrical Chief Engineer is that since there are no lights on the Railway over-bridges, much inconvenience is caused to the public. I hope this need will be attended to by the department without delay.

With these few words I support the motion.

Mr. N. K. Padmanabha Pillai : എലക്ട്രിക്കൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറ് ഈരാജ്യത്തേർപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ട് അധികകാലമായിട്ടില്ല. എന്നവരികിലും ആഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുനമിത്തം തിരുവനന്തപുരം ടൌണിൽ പലഭാഗങ്ങളും രാത്രികാലങ്ങളിൽക്കൂടി സുഖമായി സഞ്ചരിക്കാവുന്ന നിലയിലായിതീർന്നതിൽ വളരെ സന്തോഷിക്കുന്നു. എലക്ട്രിക്സപ്ലൈ അടുത്തതാലൂക്കുകളിലുംകൂടി ലഭിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നും കുറേക്കൂടി വിശാലമായ ഒരു പദ്ധതി കണ്ടുപിടിച്ചാൽകൊള്ളാമെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ പറയുന്നത്. അതായത് ഞാൻ പ്രതിനിധീകരിക്കുന്ന നെയ്യാറിൻകര താലൂക്കിൽക്കൂടി അധികംചെലവുണ്ടാകാതെ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിക്ക് നടത്തത്തക്കവിധത്തിൽ എന്തെങ്കിലും ഏർപ്പാടുചെയ്യുന്നത് കൊള്ളാം.

Mr. A. N. Visvanatha Pillai : അടുത്തതാലൂക്കുകളിലാണോ പട്ടണങ്ങളിലാണോ, നടപ്പാക്കേണ്ടത്?

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Mr. N. K. Padmanabha Pillai : അടുത്ത താല്പര്യക്കുകളിൽ എന്നാണു് ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതു്. അതു് പട്ടണത്തെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചാണു്.

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon : Sir, Mr. John Kattakayam has been labouring under certain misconceptions regardiug the works at Pallivasal.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam : മെമ്പർ മലയാളത്തിൽ സംസാരിച്ചാൽ കൊള്ളാമെന്നാഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു.

Chairman : Can you speak in Malayalam, Mr. Padmanabha Menon ?

Mr. K .P. Padmanabha Menon : It is usual to reply in English, Sir.

Chairman : Then you may continue to speak in English.

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon : He has been labouring under certain misconceptions regarding the arrangements of works at Pallivasal. He is apparently under the idea that the expenditure under equipment and staff in connection with the tunnel works is met by Government. That is not the position. Government are paying the contractors a definite rate for each completed length of the tunnel. It is no concern of the department as to what equipment the contractors use, or what labour they employ. All that the department has insisted on is that, as far as possible in the matter of employment, experienced and suitably qualified local men, if available, should be preferred to outsiders. It is therefore no business of the department to question the contractors as to whether they have brought all their equipments from the Pykara works or from any other place, whether they have appointed a manager on Rs. 300 or 400 per month or a surveyor on Rs. 300 per month. If the contractors are satisfied about the efficiency of the local labour they should appoint them wherever possible. So these objections have no ground.

With regard to the length of the tunnel, Mr. Kattakayam made out that originally it was 10,000 feet and later on it was altered to 10,200 feet. The position is this, Sir. When I invited tenders, the actual length was not fixed. But to give a general idea of the amount of work involved, it was specified in the tender specifications that the total length will be *approximately* 10,000 feet; and at the time when the Resident Engineer of the tunnel works made a speech at the opening ceremony it was stated as 10,200 feet. As a matter of fact the actual lenth now determined by a correct survey is 10,134 feet. There are no other points which require, in fact, an answer, as regards the works at Pallivasal.

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I will now turn my attention to the points raised by Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai. The first one was with regard to the engagement of men from outside for the erection of plant when the department is alredy manned with a highly paid staff. We have to get experienced men from outside to instal our plant. I said this morning that I was not an experienced erector. It does not therefore follow that there are no experienced erectors in the department. I am primarily an Engineer and there is a considerable difference between an Erector and an Engineer. At the same time it is quite possible that an Engineer may also know erection work. I have specialised in certain branches of Engineering and unfortunately erection did not happen to be one of them. Moreover, if my department is to attend to any of these erections, it will not be possible to tie down the suppliers to definite guarantees for a specified period of time. All suppliers of machinery insist on their plant being erected not by the buyers but by their own men. Otherwise if any thing goes wrong subsequently they will say it is all due to the faulty erection of the machine. And after all, when we are buying plant for about one or two and a half lakhs of rupees, it is not worth while to spend some 2,000 rupees more and get a guarantee for satisfactory operation for five years from the suppliers. Otherwise we have to lose the benefit of the five years' guarantee. After all the work involved is not a very complicated work and yet it is only experienced and skilled men that could undertake the erection work. And a man cannot be condemned because he cannot set up an engine. So much about specialists.

Then a case was made about leakages of electric current in the town of Trivandrum. I certainly regret that one or two incidents happened recently, one of which ended fatally. But it is not due to the leakage of the overhead lines. There was no case of leakage in overhead lines and the leakages happened because of the deterioration of certain lead wires which were used to tap from the overhead lines.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : May I know from the member whether lead wires have been condemned in other places ?

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon : They have been only recently condemned.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai : May I know whether there are not leakeages in other places also ?

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon : There are possibly leakages elsewhere also.

Lead wiring was introduced about 10 years ago in this country. In 1929 I consulted several experienced contractors in Madras and Bombay and also consulted the specifications of the Madras Public Works Department. I was given to understand that lead wiring

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[Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon.]

was satisfactory. But I find subsequently that experience elsewhere during the last ten years has not been satisfactory and this is confirmed by my experience here also. In view of this, I have now definitely abandoned lead wiring especially for service lines.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: With regard to the extension of supply lines in various places not covered by the Municipality, may I know whether the lines are not introduced at present?

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: I may state here that the main principle underlying the extension of supply is with a view to meet the demand from consumers. Government have originally set apart a certain amount of money for lighting for the Trivandrum Municipality That money is now transferred to this department and the department are able to maintain about 35 miles of street lighting with that amount. Incidentally it may be mentioned that the rates for street lighting has now been reduced from Rs. 30 to 25. which works out $3\frac{1}{2}$ aunas per unit, This Rs. 25 includes the complete maintenance, whereas in Trichinopoly the cost of maintenance and replacement is not included. Neither does it include the first cost for the street light, epuipments and wiring, whereas Rs. 25 charged here includes the first cost of the whole equipment as well. Mr. Parameswaran Pillai said that the department has been in existence for the last six years and it has not been able to popularise the supply as much as it should have done. The actual position is however entirely different. We started in the first year with about 380,000 units. Next year it rose to 480,000 units; in the third year it was 610,000 units; fourth year 728,000 units and in this year it is expected to be about 900,000 units.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Out of this how much is consumed by the Government offices?

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: It might have been a big percentage in the first year. This year it is about 25 to 27 per cent. The minimum for each consumer is now reduced to rupee one and annas eight per unit.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: What will be the actual cost of producing one unit of current?

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon. It is all described in the administration report. I cannot remember all the figures. The cost of oil, fuel and lubrication comes to ·467 of an anna. Wages, salaries, repairs to plant, etc., will work out to ·35 of an anna. The depreciation comes to about 1 anna and other miscellaneous charges about ·94, so that the net cost will be the total cost, which will be 2·75 of an anna.

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With regard to the extension of supply to Neyyattinkarā, this suggestion will be kept in mind and an estimate will be prepared as early as possible. It will not be a very difficult proposition to extend the supply from Trivandrum to Neyyattinkara, if there is a guaranteed consumption which will bring in a revenue of about 1,000 rupees per mensem.

Mr. M. N. Parameswaran Pillai : May I know from the member whether any steps are being now taken to supply the Railway over-bridges with electric lights ?

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: No.

With regard to the extension of electric lighting in Trivandrum the position at present is this. All that is available under this head is the grant which was originally allotted for the P. W. D. for the maintenance of gas lights and petromax lights, in addition to the grant made to the Municipality. These put together would be about 30,000 rupees. The Government granted in addition another Rs. 13,000 making the total grant Rs. 43,000. But due to the reduction of rates this year, the street lighting maintenance will come down to Rs. 38,000 this year. What I propose now to do is to work out a special tariff rate for the Municipality by which it will enable the Municipality to replace by electric lights all its existing kerosene lights in the roads where supply lines are available on payment of probably six or seven thousand rupees per annum, provided the Municipality is satisfied that the lights maintained are for the same duration as in the case of their own lights, and provided the Municipality is satisfied that the distance which is now maintained will be taken as the average span of electric lighting. Now we have already drawn our supply line for 14 miles, where there are no electric lights, so that it will be possible to work out a tariff by which all these 14 miles of roads can be lighted on a payment of about Rs. 6,000 per annum. This matter is now being investigated and I hope to discuss the question with the Municipal President and arrive at an understanding with him before taking the matter to Government. Sir, I have answered all the points that were raised in the discussion.

Chairman : Have you anything more to add, Mr. John Kattakayam ?

Mr. J. John Kattakayam: ഞാൻ എന്റെ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ പിൻവലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

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Chairman: Does the House grant permission to withdraw the motion?

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Chairman: I now put to the vote of the House Demand III—Public Works—Electrical Department for Rs. 24,87,608.

The grant was made.

DEMAND IV—INDUSTRIES.

Mr. N. K. Padmanabha Pillai (*Director of Industries*): Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 1,45,531 under Demand IV—Industries.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: Sir, I oppose the motion. Sir, with reference to the working of this department my poor memory brings back to me a line from Wordsworth. "Things which I have seen before, I see now no more". That is exactly applicable regarding the working of this department. In the Government order on the report of the department for 1107 the following remarks are made :—

> "The tapping of underground water in the arid tracts of the State which has already been taken up should be continued."

Another remark by the Government on the activities of the department is about the development of cottage industry. It is as follows :—

> "The report makes no mention of the activities of the department in the development of cottage industries. In G. O. R. O. C. No. 3021|23|Devpt, dated the 19th February 1927, the Government have passed orders with regard to the improvement of the bellmetal industry. The report is silent as to how far the orders relating to this branch have been given effect to."

Those are the remarks passed by Government in reviewing the work of the department. In 1108 also the Government have passed similar remarks about the working of this department. Sir, it is rather embarrassing for the members on this side of the House to make very cutting remarks about the working of any department. But the honourable members who occupy the Government benches also should feel that they ought to work up to the expectations of the tax-payer. We are only doing our duty in that matter. Sir, I know the working of the department for the last 10 years. Therefore, I can say that the remarks passed by the Government in reviewing the work of the department were absolutely not exaggerated. Nothing has been continued in the next year, and the next year's report mentions nothing about the activities of the department for the previous year. It is better not to single out one, but every head of the department is going on working just like a labourer for the day's work.

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